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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

466 7590 01/06/2010

YOUNG & THOMPSON
209 Madison Street
Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314

EXAMINER	
RUTLEDGE, AMELIA L	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	
DATE MAILED: 01/06/2010	

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/561,184	04/17/2006	Nobuyuki Takakuwa	8048-1134	1713

TITLE OF INVENTION: INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, INFORMATION RECORDING DEVICE AND METHOD FOR REPRODUCING AUDIO INFORMATION AND STILL PICTURE INFORMATION SIMULTANEOUSLY

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	04/06/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

466 7590 01/06/2010

YOUNG & THOMPSON
209 Madison Street
Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/561,184	04/17/2006	Nobuyuki Takakuwa	8048-1134	1713

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APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	04/06/2010

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
RUTLEDGE, AMELIA L	2176	715-500100

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

Issue Fee
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
 Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

A check is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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YOUNG & THOMPSON 209 Madison Street Suite 500 Alexandria, VA 22314				RUTLEDGE, AMELIA L		
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
				2176		
DATE MAILED: 01/06/2010						

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 538 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 538 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/561,184	TAKAKUWA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	AMELIA RUTLEDGE	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment, filed 12/04/2009.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 18-23.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/05/09
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

/Amelia Rutledge/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2176

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: Amendment, filed 12/04/2009; Information Disclosure Statement, filed 10/05/2009.
2. Claims 18-23 are allowed. Claims 18 and 20-23 are independent claims.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art, U.S. Patent No. 4,680,647 to Moriyama, teaches a method for recording a video format signal for still picture and audio (Figs. 22; 31; 33; col. 6, l. 1-45). Moriyama teaches a recording medium which is a video disc, as well as other formats (col. 49, l. 14-58). Moriyama teaches adding several types of audio to a still image recording, in order to add selection of recordings of audio information (col. 6, l. 9-51). Moriyama teaches successive reproduction for audio data and still image mode (col. 5, l. 5-68; col. 43, l. 10-67), or reproduction in response to a control signal supplied from an external source (col. 39, l. 46-col. 40, l. 39).

U.S. Patent No. 6,915,012 B2 to Osborne et al., teaches a method of embedding random data in a JPEG file, i.e., a still picture (col. 1, l. 46-col. 2, l. 36; col. 3, l. 5-col. 4, l. 3). Osborne explicitly teaches setting a start time of an audio file associated with the picture, and a loop count, which will determine how many times the audio will loop in conjunction with the image; if set to zero, the audio will loop continuously (Table 3,

"Loop Count"). Osborne teaches that multiple images may be stored and played at specific times to coincide with the audio playback (col. 13, l. 1-21).

Neither Moriyama nor Osborne discloses the following newly claimed limitations of independent claim 18:

.... recorded object data, the object data being a multiplex of a first stream including still picture information and a second stream including audio information by a unit of packet; and recorded reproduction control information, the reproduction control information comprising:

- i) first reproduction sequence information which designates a reproduction sequence of the first stream by a first unit and which includes time information indicating a reproduction start timing of the first unit;*
- ii) reproduction time information which indicates whether each still picture of the still picture information of the first stream is a finite value or an infinite value, and which indicates a reproduction time of the still picture whose reproduction time is the finite value;*
- iii) first type information which indicates a type of the first unit*
- iv) first storage position information which indicates a storage position of the object data designated by the first unit;*
- v) second reproduction sequence information which designates a reproduction sequence of the second stream, and which includes audio repeat information indicating whether or not the audio information of the second stream is to be repeatedly reproduced;*

vi) second type information which indicates a type of the second stream; ...

Independent claims 20-23 recite similar limitations to the above limitations of independent claim 18.

Neither Moriyama nor Osborne disclose *...multiplex of a first stream including still picture information and a second stream including audio information by a unit of packet...;* (see Remarks, p. 13-15), in combination with the limitations:

ii) reproduction time information which indicates whether each still picture of the still picture information of the first stream is a finite value or an infinite value, and which indicates a reproduction time of the still picture whose reproduction time is the finite value;

and

v) second reproduction sequence information which designates a reproduction sequence of the second stream, and which includes audio repeat information indicating whether or not the audio information of the second stream is to be repeatedly reproduced;

It would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined Moriyama and Osborne to arrive at the instant invention, because the above claimed features of the instant invention are not disclosed in the prior art of record.

A search of the prior art did not produce any prior art disclosing the combination of limitations claimed in independent claims 18 and 20-23, in particular, the steps of multiplexing the stream of still picture information and the stream of audio information, combined with designating the reproduction time of the still picture as a finite or infinite value, and audio repeat information indicating whether or not the audio information of the second stream is to be repeatedly reproduced.

Independent claims 18 and 20-23 are defined in the specification as being directed to statutory categories of invention under 35 U.S.C. 101. The information record medium of claim 18 is limited to a statutory medium in the specification, p. 14, which defines the medium as an optical disk. The apparatus claimed in claims 20 and 22 is limited to hardware in the specification, p. 27-29. The methods of claims 21 and 23 are also statutory under 101.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Christel, et al., "Information Visualization Within a Digital Video Library", Journal of Intelligent Information Systems, Vol. 11, Issue 3, Nov/Dec 1998, p. 235-257.

Furht, "Multimedia systems: an overview", Multimedia, IEEE, Vol. 1, Issue 1, Spring 1994, p. 47-59.

Meyer, et al., "A Taxonomy on Multimedia Synchronization", copyright 1993, IEEE, p. 97-103.

Seo et al. U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0109676 A1 published June 2004

Jung et al. U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0252978 A1 published December 2004

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMELIA RUTLEDGE whose telephone number is (571)272-7508. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:30 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Amelia Rutledge/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2176